THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The Indian Army has been deployed along the cease Fire Line/Line of Control (LoC) in J&K since 1948 to maintain the sanctity of the line of control. However since 1990, Indian Army troop deployment along the Line of Control has also been configured to undertake the additional task of countering Pak sponsored terrorism including infiltration.

After the terrorist attack on the Parliament House on 13th December, 2001, the Indian Army was mobilized along the International Border with Pakistan for Op PARAKRAM.

(b) The extra monthly expenditure can be known only after the redeployment is complete.

(c) The number of Army personnel killed/wounded in Jammu & Kashmir and western sector of the country during the period of mobilization of Op PARAKRAM *i.e.* from 19th December, 2001 to 16th October, 2002 was 1874 and the number of civilians killed in J&K during 15.12.2001 to 15.10.2002 was 837.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. The morale of the Indian Army is very high. Also the Medical Directorate of Army HQrs. has taken several pre-emptive measures in order to maintain high morale and keep the soldiers stress-free.

Report on MIG-21 crash at Srinagar

4186. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question 38 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th February, 2003 and state:

(a) whether the Court of Inquiry has submitted its report on the crash of MIG-21 aircraft on the outskirts of Srinagar on 26th December, 2002;

(b) if so, the details of the findings *vis-a-vis* chances of sabotage;

(c) if not, when the report is expected; and

(d) by when MIG aircrafts are likely to be replaced?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Court of Inquiry is still in progress.

(c) The report is likely to be finalised by the end of April, 2003.

(d) Replacement of fighter aircraft is an ongoing process. Hence no specific time frame can be given.